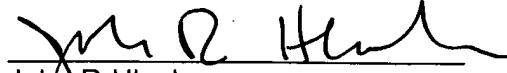


Serial No. 10/584,872

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this matter to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Hlavka", written over a horizontal line.

John R Hlavka
Reg. No. 29,076
Customer No. 26, 294

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/EP2005/001910

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

RÜTTGERS, Joachim
A. Raymond GmbH & Co. KG
Teichstrasse 57
79539 Lörrach
ALLEMAGNE

INGEGANGEN

16. Nov. 2006

Erl.

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 09 November 2006 (09.11.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference RL 608 WO	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/EP2005/001910	International filing date (day/month/year) 24 February 2005 (24.02.2005)
Applicant A. RAYMOND & CIE et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference RL 608 WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/EP2005/001910	International filing date (day/month/year) 24 February 2005 (24.02.2005)	Priority date (day/month/year) 16 March 2004 (16.03.2004)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant A. RAYMOND & CIE			

1. This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a).

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).

Date of issuance of this report 01 November 2006 (01.11.2006)	
The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Ellen Moyse
Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70	e-mail: pt05@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

Date of mailing **See form PCT/ISA/210**
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference

RL 608 WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/001910

International filing date (day/month/year)

24.02.2005

Priority date (day/month/year)

16.03.2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

F16L3/23, F16L3/26, H02G3/04

Applicant

A. RAYMOND & CIE

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/001910

Box No. I

Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/001910

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims <u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims <u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims <u>1-5</u>	YES
	Claims _____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

1 Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: EP 1 162 709 A (PANDUIT CORPORATION) 12
December 2001 (2001-12-12)

D2: US 6 164 603 A (KAWAI ET AL.) 26 December 2000
(2000-12-26)

D3: US 3 090 826 A (COCHRAN CLARENCE W) 21 May
1963 (1963-05-21)

2 Document D1 is considered to be the closest prior art. It discloses (the references between parentheses relate to said document, see figures 1, 2 and 11 in particular):

a) apparatus for holding elongate articles, in particular electrical lines and/or fluid lines, having a holding part () which has a base wall (22) and two mutually opposite edge walls (24, 24'), and having a cover part (40) which is attached to the holding part () in a pivotable manner by means of an edge hinge (28) and can be connected to the holding part () by means of a closure arrangement (30) which is situated opposite the edge hinge (28), with the cover part (40) having at least two covering portions (40A, 40B),

from which the subject matter of independent claim 1

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2005/001910

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

differs in that:

the cover part has at least three covering portions, with a centre hinge being formed between adjacent covering portions in each case, and with the closure arrangement providing a number of closing positions which corresponds to the number of centre hinges, in which closing positions the covering portions are arranged at different distances from the base wall.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

b) The problem addressed by the present invention can therefore be considered that of specifying an apparatus for holding elongate articles which is distinguished by a certain degree of variability as regards installation options.

c) The solution to this problem which is proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) for the following reasons:

The combination of features contained in claim 1 is neither known from the available prior art nor suggested by it.

3 Claims 2-5 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore likewise meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.

4 INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

The subject matter of claims 1 to 5 can be produced and used and is therefore industrially applicable.